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TO THE LORDS AND COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Humble Petition of the County of Hereford, *presented by the Grand Iury at the Quarter Sessions holden for the said County after the Feast of the* Epiphanie. 1642.

With the Petition of the County of Hertford *to His Majesty: and His Majesties Answer thereunto.*

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303
126

TO THE LORDS AND COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT assembled.

The humble Petition of the County of Hereford, *presented by the Grand Jury at the Quarter Sessions holden for the said County, after the Feast of the* Epiphanie. 1642.

WHereas many grievances abounded in the Kingdome, which wee hoped would have bin reformed by this Parliament, gladding our hearts by the establishing of some excellent Lawes at the beginning, but is now become unfortunate by the misunderstanding betweene His Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament to our great griefe

and damage, whereof we of theſe parts have a more particular feeling, for that the Earle of *Stamford*, and others comming into our Country, (pretending the peaceable government thereof) by authority of both Houſes of Parliament, and proteſting that wrong ſhould be done to none, the cleane contrary whereof wee have found by the plundering of many of the Houſes of many of His Majeſties good Subjects, laying nothing to their charge, but not aſſiſting him; killing and hanging ſome, and haling others at horſes heeles very inhumanely, and committing diverſe ſpoyles and outrages contrary to all Laws and conſcience, to the horrible aſtoniſhment of His Majeſties Subjects of this County, who before that, lived in peace and obedience to His Majeſtie, and the Lawes of the Land; likewiſe there came in the company of the ſaid Earle one Mr *Sedgwicke*, a Preacher, who in his Sermons uſed many unſeemly ſpeeches, tending not onely to the great diſgrace of perſons of high honour, and of the Gentlemen of this County then attending His Majeſtie: but alſo to the ſeducing of his Majeſties People to adhere unto him, and his tenets of ſeparatiſme, and innovations; and the ſaid Earle cauſed the common Gaole, and other priſons of the ſaid County to be ſet open, and the priſoners therein, as well felons, as others to go at large, contrary to Law and Juſtice, good government and humane ſociety. And the ſaid Earle neglecting the Laws of the Land, forced great Summes of mony from many of His Majeſties

Majeſties Subjects, received part of the rents; and revenues to the Cathedrall Church belonging; removed a miniſter from his Benefice, and placed an other in his ſteed: ſetled poſſeſſion of Lands & Tenements, and uſed Tyrannicall government at his pleaſure, contrary to the Law; diſarmed many trayned ſoldiers of the Countie, ſo farre as in him lay; and carried away their armes, together with the Magazine of the Countie.

The conſideration whereof, and the future evill that is like to enſue to the whole Kingdome, if peace be not ſpeedily eſtabliſhed: and for that by grievious experience wee find, that the government of the Houſes of Parliament diſjoyned from His Majeſties cooperation with them, hath not produced, nor is like to bring forth thoſe happy fruites of peace and charity, (which we muſt acknowledge) wee have been filled with under the reigne of His Majeſty that now is, untill the miſunderſtanding did ariſe betweene His Sacred Perſon and His two Houſes of Parliament; and for that we would rather chooſe our lives and fortunes ſhould endure any thing required by His Majeſtie, with the aſſent of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, then receive all the felicitie which is promiſed by both Houſes of Parliament accompanied with the tyrannicall oppreſſions, which their miniſters have even overwhelmed the Kingdome with.

We humbly pray that both Houſes of Parliament would forthwith ſubmit to ſuch termes of Accommodation as his Majeſtie will graciouſly yeeld unto, rather then ſuffer us to remaine any longer under the extreameſt of all evills; wee ſay not a civill warre, but that which is like to be the moſt horrid, and deſperate Civill warre that can be apprehended poſſible to befall any Nation.

In Dorſo.

Wee whoſe names are ſubſcribed, being the Grand Jury within mentioned, do nominate and deſire our foreman Mr *Abell Carwardyne*, to carry and preſent with all humbleneſſe true Copies of the within written petition to both Houſes of Parliament in the behalfe of us, and the whole County of *Hereford*.

Abell Carwardyne.
Richard Browne.
Iohn Baite.
Thomas Eynoe.
Iames Hodges.
Iohn Scudamore.
Thomas Watkins.
William Paine.
Iohn Hall.
Theophilus Ienkins.
Richard Mace.
Thomas Perkes.
William Marſh.
Francis Colecombe.
Iohn Symonds.

Copia vera examinatur per me Thom. Edmonds
Deput. Cler. Pacis Com. Heref prad.

FINIS.